

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/051,257

Examiner

F. Lin Khoo

Applicant(s)

ZHAO, JIAN

Art Unit

2664

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/18/2002.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>1/18/2002</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1-5 are allowable over the prior art.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art made of record does not teach in combination the method of determining whether there is at least one neighbor base station within a pilot neighbor list with a pilot signal strength near a threshold T-ADD value when a new base station is not in a pilot candidate list and if at least one neighbor base station is found within a pilot neighbor list, sending a pilot strength measure message from the mobile station to the base station so as to activate a soft handover process upon receipt of the pilot strength message.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 6,782,261 to Ahmed et al. relates to monitoring the signal strengths of a plurality of pilot signals transmitted from a plurality of base stations, by a method and device in which the mobile station determines the membership of Active Set pilots by generating a quality metric derived as a function of (i) detected pilot signal strengths corresponding to the Active Set of pilots, and (ii) detected pilot signal strengths corresponding to a non-Active Set of pilots, determining a threshold value, the threshold value determined as a function of the quality metric, and assigning the pilot to, or removing the pilot from, the Active Set of pilots if the signal strength corresponding to the pilot exceeds the threshold value.

U.S. Patent No. 6,337,984 to Hong et al. relates to a method for controlling a handoff in a communication system in which the pilot strength of a base station and the frame quality of a forward link are measured by a mobile station and the mobile station checks whether the measured pilot strength is higher than a parameter T_Add that is a threshold value for the pilot strength of the base station to which a new communication path is supposed to be added.

U.S. Patent No. 6,055,428 to Soliman relates to a mobile station determining whether a change to the current active set is desirable by measuring the energies of the pilots in the active set and the candidate set, and dynamically adjusting the necessary thresholds based on its own estimation of the communication environment.

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U.S. Patent No. 5,267,261 to Blakeney, II et al. relates to soft handoff in a CDMA cellular communication system. When the mobile station detects falling below a predetermined level of the signal strength of a pilot corresponding to at least one of the base stations through which the mobile station is communicating, the mobile station reports the measured signal strength indicative of the corresponding base station to the system controller via the base stations through which it is communicating. Command messages from the system controller to the identified base station and the mobile station terminates communication through the corresponding base station while communications through the other base station or base stations continue.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to F. Lin Khoo whose telephone number is 571-272-5508. The examiner can normally be reached on flex time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on 571-272-3134. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



WELLINGTON CHIN
SENIOR PATENT EXAMINER